



Application No. 09/926,709
Attorney Docket No. 103176-00001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of:

Confirmation No.: 2869

K. YANO et al.

Art Unit: 1731

Application No.: 09/926,709

Examiner: M. Alvo

Filed: December 5, 2001

Attorney Dkt. No.: 103176-00001

For: ASSISTANT FOR DIGESTING LIGNOCELLULOSE MATERIAL
AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING PULP

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 12, 2003

Sir:

The due date for responding to the Restriction Requirement mailed November 6, 2003 is extended one month with a Petition for Extension of Time attached.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group I, directed to claims 1-6 and 11-16. Applicants note that claims 8-20, presented in the Preliminary Amendment of December 5, 2001 were inadvertently left out of the Restriction Requirement. Applicants request that claims 11-16 be examined on the merits along with claims 1-6 of the Restriction Requirement.

In addition, applicants elect with traverse the species of Example 58 in Table 4, page 46 of the specification. Example 58 comprises

isodecyl-O-(PO)₁-(EO)₁₀-H as the non-ionic surfactant (A) under part (a) of claim 5, wherein PO is propylene oxide and EO is ethylene oxide;

n-tetradecyl-SO₃Na as the ionic surfactant (C) under part (b) of claim 5 in a 100:1 weight ratio (see page 31, the last line; page 34, line 7; page 35, line 2); and

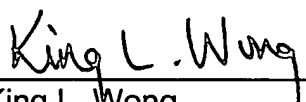
1,4-dihydro-9,10-dihydroxyanthracene and polysulfide (see the legend of Table 4).

Claims 5, 6, 15 and 16 read on the elected species.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement and election of species requirement because there is no undue burden to examine all the claims and all the species covered by the claims.

In the event that the filing of this paper is deemed not timely, applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any petition fee, fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 103176-00001.

Respectfully submitted,



King L. Wong
Registration No. 37,500

Customer No. 004372
ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 828-3455
Fax: (202) 638-4810
Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time
KLW/ep